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2837 #4  
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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 010826

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner:

In re application of Hess

GROUND RUNUP ENCLOSURE AND  
METHOD FOR TESTING AIRCRAFT  
ENGINES

Group Art Unit No. 2837

Serial No.: 10/032,226

Filed: December 18, 2001

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222  
August 2, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

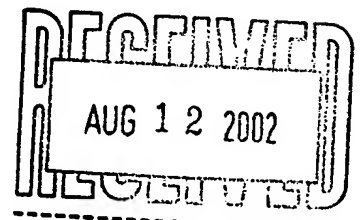
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Applicant, in accordance with his duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56,  
hereby advises the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed  
on the accompanying form PTO-1449 *Information Disclosure Citation* (PTO-149). A  
copy of each of the references cited therein is herewith enclosed.

"Express Mail" mailing label number EU150763771US

Date of Deposit August 2, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post  
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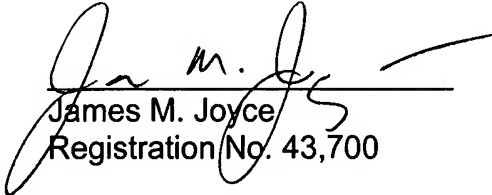
DT 26 19 486 A1 and DE 30 23 707 A1 are German patents. Accordingly, please find a concise explanation of the relevance of each of those references, prepared by Roland H. Joachim, Attorney for Applicant, attached hereto at Tab A.

Pages from two different websites are referenced in the "Other Documents" section of the accompanying PTO-1449. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that those websites or the other references presented herewith are prior art to the claims of the present application, and Applicants make no such admission.

Applicants believe that the instant IDS fully complies with the disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, inasmuch as under rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 there is no requirement for Applicants to explain the relevance of the English language references cited in the IDS.

Applicant notes that although the cited references may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this *Information Disclosure Statement* "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)."

Respectfully submitted,

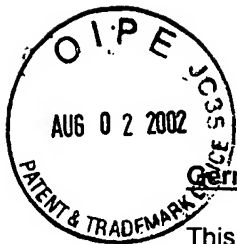


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**German Patent Document nt 3023707**

This document describes a protective facility for sound dampening and diversion of large, high speed gas streams, and particularly gas streams produced by jet aircraft. The facility comprises a pair of side walls (9) (not shown in drawing) connected at right angles to a sound absorbing rear wall (5). The rear wall (5) is filled with a sound absorbing material (7) such as mineral wool and is provided with a sound transparent cover (8). Arranged ahead of the rear wall (5) is a guidance element (2) comprised of a sound transparent, reinforced expanded metal mesh. The mesh is supported by posts (4) at an angle of about 65 to 80 degrees, more preferably 70 to 75 degrees against the direction of gas flow.

**German Patent Document 2619486**

This document discloses a noise protection facility having side walls (15) and rear walls (15) arranged to form three-sided enclosures. The walls (15) are constructed on a foundation (11) from U-shaped building blocks (1) and intermediate plates (2). Blocks and plates are preferably both formed from reinforced concrete and are provided with sound absorbing elements (3) arranged on the undersides thereof. As shown in Fig. 2, the blocks and plates are stacked in alternating vertical and horizontal arrangement, such that plates extend horizontally between horizontally adjacent blocks and between vertically adjacent blocks. The tops of the walls are held in place by tie beams (4) and the walls are supported by support beams (12). As illustrated in Fig. 1, sound absorbing blinds (17) movable on rails can be provided at the front of the enclosure.

The above summaries were prepared by Roland H. Joachim, Attorney for Applicant.

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